

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Final Action dated May 18, 2005. Applicant has amended the claims to clarify key features of the invention and overcome the claim objections and rejections. No new matter has been added, and the amendments place the claims in better condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments to the claims. The discussion/arguments provided below reference the claims in their amended form.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant notes with appreciation that at paragraph 39 of the Office Action, Examiner states that Claims 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 20, 22 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §101, as set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the stated 101 issues. Applicant has further incorporated allowable subject matter from several conditionally allowed dependent claims into their respective independent claims. The incorporation of allowable material into the respective independent claims along with the removal of any 101 issues places the independent claims and all their dependent claims in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests Examiner remove the conditionality of the above allowance and extend the allowance to include all pending claims.

CLAIMS OBJECTIONS

At paragraph 3 of the present Office Action, Claims 4, 9, 10, 17, 18 and 25 are objected to because of specific informalities. Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claims 4, 9-10, 17-18 and 25 to remove all listed informalities contained therein and overcome the claim objections. One exception is with respect to Claim 18, where "to support" was found within the original claim and thus did not require an amendment. Applicant requests removal of the objections to the above claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101

At paragraph 5 of the present Office Action, Claims 1-2, 4-16 and 18-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to a non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, Examiner states that "[t]he claims are not limited to tangible embodiments."

Applicant is unsure why Examiner would place claims 18-24, which are clearly method claims, within the scope of this rejection. The MPEP places no "tangible" requirement on method claims. With respect to the other claims, Applicant has amended the claims as follows: Claims 1-2, 5-9 are now references to a computer system and functions carried out by code executing within the computer system; and Claims 10-17 have been amended to reflect that the computer readable medium is in fact a tangible medium. The above amendments ensure that each claim group is directed to a statutory subject matter and thus overcomes the present 101 rejections. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests removal of the 101 rejection to the claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

At paragraph 7 of the present Office Action, Claims 1-2, 5, 7, 9-11, 13, 15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Jollands, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,941) in view of *Sakarda* (U.S. Patent No. 6,189,050) and Applicant's Admitted Prior Art, hereinafter *AAPA*, in view of *Nemeth, et al. Unix System Administration Handbook (Nemeth)*.

Applicant hereby incorporates by reference the arguments proffered in Amendment A, filed on March 11, 2005, in which Applicant clearly discredits *Jollands and Sakarda* as references on which the above rejection can be supported.

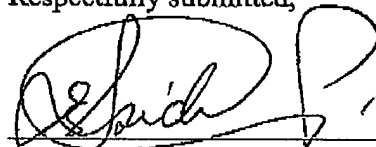
However, as stated above, Applicant has incorporated allowable subject matter into each independent claim, rendering the above §103 rejections moot and placing all pending claims in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has diligently responded to the Office Action by amending the claims to overcome claim objections and §101 rejections. Applicants have further incorporated allowable subject matter into each independent claim. The amendments further overcome the §103 rejection, and Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests removal of all objections, reconsideration of the various rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims now pending.

Applicant further requests the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at 512.343.6116 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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